

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HEW-08 CU-04 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 DRC-01

NIC-01 /140 W

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R 010600Z DEC 73

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8856

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJECT: SHANGHAI AND HEILUNGKIANG PUSH LEFTIST EDUCATION
POLICY

REF: HONG KONG 11525

SUMMARY: AS IT HAS DONE ON THE NEW POLICY ISSUE OF ARMING
THE MILITIA, HEILUNGKIANG ONCE AGAIN IS EXPLICITLY FOLLOWING
SHANGHAI'S LEAD--THIS TIME ON THE CONTROVERSY OVER
EDUCATIONAL POLICY. BOTH PROVINCES CHARGE THAT THE AMOUNT OF
REVISIONISM IN TODAY'S UNIVERSITIES IS AT A "POISONOUS" LEVEL.
END SUMMARY.

1. THE NOVEMBER 24 HEILUNGKIANG DAILY HAS APPROVINGLY
REPRINTED TWO PICES ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY THAT WERE FIRST
PUBLISHED IN SHANGHAI THREE DAYS EARLIER. THE HEILUNGKIANG
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PAPER SAID THE PICES, (AN EDITORIAL NOTE AND THE RECORD OF A

TALK BY LIU LI-HUA, A SHANGHAI STUDENT FROM HIELUNGKIANG)
"ARE APPLICABLE TO US."

2. THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME HEILUNGKIANG HAS DEFERENTIALLY FOLLOWED SHANGHAI'S LEAD IN CURRENT POLICY DISPUTES. EARLIER THE PROVINCE MODELED ITS MILITIA PROGRAM ON SHANGHAI'S (REFTEL), AND RECENTLY IT REITERATED PRAISE FOR REVOLUTIONARY OPERAS AS "PERSONALLY CULTIVATED BY CHIANG CHING" (NOVEMBER 15 BROADCAST). THE LATTER GESTURE TO MAO'S WIFE, WHO SUFFERED POLITICAL DEMOTION RECENTLY AT THE TENTH PARTY CONGRESS, ALSO RELATES TO SHANGHAI. WITH ASSISTANCE FROM SHANGHAI (CHIEF (AND POLITBURO STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBER) CHANG CHUN-CHIAO, SHE LAUNCHED HER POLITICAL CAREER THERE AT THE OUTSET OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION, AND HAS REMAINED CLOSE TO THE CITY SINCE. THESE CONTINUING SIGNS OF HEILUNGKIANG'S DEFERENCE TO SHANGHAI REENFORCE OUR EARLIER IMPRESSION THAT THE PROVINCE IS AGAIN UNDER ASSERTIVE LEFTIST LEADERSHIP(REFTEL).

3. SHANGHAI HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN OUT FRONT IN CHAMPIONING CULTURAL REVOLUTION CAUSES, AND THE SHANGHAI EDITOR'S NOTE REPEATED BY HEILUNGKIANG IS NO EXCEPTION. THE NOTE SAID THE SHANGHAI STUDENT'S TALK UNDERLINED WHAT CHOU EN-LAI CALLED THE NEED FOR " CLASS STRUGGLE IN THE SUPERSTRUCTURE, INCLUDING ALL SPHERES OF CULTURE." IF "EXPOSED" A "POISONOUS INFLUENCE" IN EDUCATION AIMED AT "PUTTING INTELLECTUAL TRAINING FIRST" AND " PUTTING PROFESSIONAL WORK IN COMMAND." UNSURPRISINGLY, THE NOTE DID NOT EXPLICITLY ASSOCIATE THESE "ERRORS" WITH LIN PIAO. SUCH "ERRORS" ARE FREQUENTLY PINNED ON EXPERTS OF INTELLECTUALS OF THE "RIGHT"--NOT LIN PIAO-TYPE "SCHEMERS."

4. IN HER TALK, LIU LI-HUA PORTRAYED HERSELF AS A NEGLECTED, UNDER-EDUCATED PEASANT WRONGED BY TEACHERS AT SHANGHAI NORMAL UNIVERSITY WHO ONLY CARED ABOUT STUDENTS WHO "STUDY IN THE LIBRARY" AND "IMMERSE THEMSELVES IN SEEKING PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE." LIU SAID THAT WHILE SHE "DOES NOT MEAN THAT WE DO NOT NEED KNOWLEDGE," SHE WAS VICTIMIZED BY "SOME PEOPLE" WHO USED "ACADEMIC MARKS" TO RESTRICT HER AND HER COLLEAGUES.

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5. LIU'S CRY ECHOES THAT OF CHANG TIEH-SHENG, THE "GOING AGAINST THE TIDE" HERO WHO EARLIER THIS YEAR FEATURED IN THE ROW OVER ENROLLMENT EXAMS. BUT WHILE CHANG WAS ATTACKING THE UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE SYSTEM, LIU IS HITTING AT THE TREATMENT OF THE WORKER-PEASANT STUDENTS ALREADY AT UNIVERSITIES. CHINESE PROFESSORS HAVE LONG BLAMED ILL-PREPARED STUDENTS LIKE LIU FOR FORCING UNIVERSITIES TO BECOME JUNIOR HIGHSCHOOLS, AND STARTING LAST YEAR, STEPS WERE TAKEN TO

DEEMPHASIZE THE WORKER-PEASANTS. NOW THE SHANGHAI AND HEILUNGKIANG PRESS ARE ENCOURAGING THEIR CONTINUED PROMINENCE IN THE STUDENT BODY.

6. SHANGHAI HAS ALREADY TAKEN OTHER STEPS THAT EXPRESS ITS OPPOSITION TO ELITIST EDUCATION. IN OCTOBER, THE CITY DREW NATIONWIDE ATTENTION TO THE ROLE OF CLASSROOM EXAMINATIONS BY SUPPORTING TWO RED GUARDS WHO CHEATED ON SCHOOL TESTS (WR 43). MORE RECENTLY A SHANGHAI INSTITUTE, CONCERNED THAT "THE IDEOLOGICAL REVOLUTINIZATION OF THE TEACHERS IS FAR FROM KEEPING ABREAST OF THE SITUATION," REPORTED SENDING THREE-FIFTHS OF ITS TEACHERS THROUGH MAY 7 SCHOOLS OR FACTORIES DURING THE PAST YEAR ALONE (NOVEMBER 16 BROADCAST). THE PROGRAM WENT FORWARD DESPITE TEACHER COMPLAINTS OF "TOO HEAVY" WORKLOADS CAUSED BY THE LARGE NUMBERS OF WORKER-PEASANT STUDENTS.

7. ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF WHAT THE CITY'S INTELLECTUALS ARE BEING PUT THROUGH COMES FROM SHANGHAI'S FUTAN UNIVERSITY. THERE SCIENCE TEACHERS MUST ACCEPT WORKERS PARTICIPATING IN LABORATORY RESEARCH AND "ACADEMIC DISCUSSION MEETINGS" AND MUST INVITE THEM TO "MAKE REPORTS" (NOVEMBER 17 BROADCAST). THEY WILL DO SO BECAUSE THE PROFESSORS "HAVE COME TO REALIZE" THAT "THE WORKING PEOPLE" ARE "THE DECISIVE FACTOR IN PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE."
OSBORN

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